

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00

LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 /078 W  
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R 151700Z APR 75  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0224  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS  
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS  
USMISSION OECD PARIS  
AMCONSUL BELFAST  
AMCONSUL EDINBURGH  
AMCONSUL LIVERPOOL

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, EGEN, UK, EEC  
SUBJECT: EC MEMBERSHIP: FINANCIAL TIMES ESTIMATES UNION  
POSITIONS

1. APRIL 15 FINANCIAL TIMES REPORTED TWO MORE MAJOR TRADE  
UNIONS ANNOUNCED DECISION ON EC MEMBERSHIP QUESTION. PUB-  
LIC EMPLOYEES UNION (NUPE) DECIDED TO OPPOSE UK MEMBER-  
SHIP, WHILE SHOP AND DISTRIBUTIVE WORKERS (USDW), LED  
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BY LORD ALLEN, OPTED TO SUPPORT EC. FORMER UNION CONTROLS  
400 THOUSAND VOTES IN LABOR PARTY CONFERENCE, AND LATTER

CONTROLS 293 THOUSAND. FT ARTICLE ALSO INCLUDES ESTIMATED DIVISION OF TOTAL UNION SUPPORT AS FOLLOWS: PRO-EC, UNIONS WITH 1.7 MILLION VOTES; ANTI-EC, UNIONS HAVING 2.6 MILLION VOTES.

2. AS TRADE UNIONS WILL CONTROL 5.4 MILLION BALLOTS OF TOTAL 6.1 MILLION AT APRIL 26 SPECIAL LABOR PARTY CONFERENCE, FT ESTIMATE LEAVES OVER ONE MILLION TRADE UNION VOTES UNACCOUNTED FOR. FT ARTICLE IDENTIFIES ONLY THE LARGEST UNIONS AND DOES NOT MENTION THOSE WHICH ARE CURRENTLY "UNDECIDED".

3. COMMENT: FT ESTIMATE, AS FAR AS WE CAN DERERMIN, IS FIRST COMPREHENSIVE, PUBLIC ATTEMPT TO ASSESS RELATIVE STRENGTH OF OPPOSING TRADE UNION VIEWS ON EC QUESTION. FT HAS GOOD RECORD ON SUCH ESTIMATES, AND THIS ONE IS CONSISTENT WITH OTHER, LESS DETAILED ASSESSMENTS OF TRADE UNION SENTIMENT. WHILE VOTES OF THE UNREPORTED UNIONS ARE SUFFICIENT TO REVERSE THE CURRENTLY ESTIMATED LEAD ENJOYED BY ANTI-MARKET FORCES, IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT THESE UNIONS WILL VOTE EN MASSE TO SUPPORT THE EC. MOREOVER, GENERALLY ACCEPTED VIEW THAT LABOR PARTY CONSTITUENCY ORGANIZATIONS, WHICH CONTROL BULK OF NON-TRADE UNION VOTES AT CONFERENCE, ARE STRONGLY OPPOSED TO MEMBERSHIP MAKES ODDS ON SPECIAL CONFERENCE ENDORSING GOVERNMENT PRO-EC POSITION VERY HIGH INDEED.

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEMBERSHIP, POLICIES, PRESS COMMENTS, RELATIONS WITH REGIONAL ORGS, LABOR UNIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750132-0269  
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**TAGS:** PINT, PFOR, EGEN, UK, EEC, FINANCIAL TIMES  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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